

# Phase transition of a two dimensional binary spreading model

G. Ódor<sup>1</sup>, M.C. Marques<sup>2</sup> and M.A. Santos<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Research Institute for Technical Physics and Materials Science, P. O. Box 49, H-1525 Budapest, Hungary*

<sup>2</sup> *Departamento de Física and Centro de Física do Porto, Faculdade de Ciências, Universidade do Porto  
Rua do Campo Alegre, 687 – 4169-007 Porto – Portugal*

We investigated the phase transition behavior of a binary spreading process in two dimensions for different particle diffusion strengths ( $D$ ). We found that  $N > 2$  cluster mean-field approximations must be considered to get consistent singular behavior. The  $N = 3, 4$  approximations result in a continuous phase transition belonging to a single universality class along the  $D \in (0, 1)$  phase transition line. Large scale simulations of the particle density confirmed mean-field scaling behavior with logarithmic corrections. This is interpreted as numerical evidence supporting that the upper critical dimension in this model is  $d_c = 2$ . The pair density scales in a similar way but with an additional logarithmic factor to the order parameter. At the  $D = 0$  endpoint of the transition line we found DP criticality.

## I. INTRODUCTION

The study of nonequilibrium phase transitions in systems with absorbing phases is an active area of research in Statistical Physics with applications in various other fields such as chemistry, biology and social sciences [1]. The classification of the types of phase transitions found in these systems into universality classes is, nevertheless, still an incomplete task.

The directed percolation (DP) universality class is the most common nonequilibrium universality class [2,3]. Directed percolation was indeed found to describe the critical behavior of a wide range of systems, despite the differences in their microscopic dynamic rules. However, the presence of some conservation laws and/or symmetries in the dynamics has been found to lead to other universality classes [4].

The pair contact process (PCP) [5] is one of the models whose (steady state) critical properties belong to the DP universality class. If the model is generalized to include single particle diffusion (PCPD or annihilation/fission model [6,7]), a qualitatively distinct situation arises since states with only isolated particles are no longer frozen and the question was raised of whether this would modify the universality class. A field theoretical study of the annihilation/fission model was presented long ago [7]. Unfortunately, it relies on a perturbative renormalization group analysis which breaks down in spatial dimensions  $d \leq 2$  so that the active phase and the phase transition are inaccessible to this study. The upper critical dimension  $d_c$  is 2 for this bosonic theory, where multiple site occupancy is allowed, contrary to the usual lattice models and Monte Carlo simulations. A fermionic field theory is not available but it is expected to lead to  $d_c = 1$  [8] – therefore mean field predictions, with some logarithmic corrections, would be seen in  $d = 1$  if the latter is the correct theory.

Monte Carlo, Coherent Anomaly [9,10] and DMRG studies [6,11] of the  $1 - d$  PCPD proved to be rather

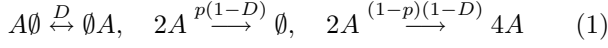
hard due to very long relaxation times and important corrections to scaling. Several hypothesis were put forward in order to classify its critical behavior: single type [6,11] versus two regions of different behavior [9], parity conserving (PC) class [6], mean field behavior, diffusion-dependent exponents. Some related models were also studied [13–18] with the aim of identifying the relevant features which determine the critical properties. The matter is not yet fully clarified, but it seems more likely that this system belongs to a distinct, not previously encountered, universality class. Park *et al* [15] have also pointed out that the *binary* character of the particle creation mechanism, rather than parity conservation, might be the crucial factor determining the type of critical behavior of PCPD. Higher dimensional studies of PCPD-like models are thus necessary in order to clarify their universal properties and thus contribute to a full understanding of the nonequilibrium phase transitions puzzle.

In the present work we have studied a two-dimensional model where particle diffusion competes with binary creation and annihilation of pairs of particles. The model is described in the following section. Cluster mean field studies are presented in section III and Monte Carlo simulations are discussed in section IV. Finally we summarize and discuss our results.

## II. THE MODEL

The sites of a square lattice of side  $L$  are either occupied by a particle (1) or empty (0). The following dynamic rules are then performed sequentially. A particle is selected at random and i) with probability  $D$  is moved to a (randomly chosen) empty neighbor site; with the complementary probability, and provided the particle has at least one occupied neighbor, then ii) the two particles annihilate with probability  $p$  or iii) with probability  $1 - p$  two particles are added at vacant neighbors of the initial particle. The selection of neighbors is always

done with equal probabilities; the updating is aborted and another particle is selected, if the chosen sites are not empty/occupied as required by the process. In reaction-diffusion language one has



It is clear that, in the absence of particle diffusion ( $D = 0$ ), only sites which belong to a pair of occupied neighbors are active. In terms of pairs – taken as redefined ‘particles’ – we have a *unary* process where ‘particles’ are destroyed at rate  $p$  or give birth to new ‘particles’ at rate  $1-p$ ; the number of offsprings is greater or equal to two – because new pairs may also be formed with next nearest neighbor particles – and parity of the number of ‘particles’ is not conserved. This is similar to the PCP and one expects to see a phase transition, in the DP universality class, between an active phase with a finite density of pairs (at low  $p$ ) and an absorbing phase without pairs (for  $p > p_c$ ).

When particle diffusion is included, one has a qualitatively different situation, since configurations with only lonely particles are no longer absorbing – the only absorbing states are the empty lattice and the configurations with a single particle. There is parity conservation in terms of particles and the creation and annihilation mechanisms are *binary*. The nature of the phase transition, expected to occur at some value  $p_c(D)$ , is investigated below.

### III. CLUSTER MEAN-FIELD CALCULATIONS

We performed  $N$ -cluster mean-field calculations [19,20] for this model. Since the details of the dynamics will not influence the values of the mean field critical indices, we have considered a simpler one dimensional version of the model where the creation takes place at the nearest and next-nearest sites to one side of the mother particle.

At the site ( $N = 1$ ) level, the evolution of the particle density  $\rho$  (denoted by  $n$  in [6]) can be expressed as

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = -2p\rho^2 + 2(1-p)\rho^2(1-\rho)^2 \quad (2)$$

which has a stationary solution

$$\rho(\infty) = \frac{p-1+\sqrt{p-p^2}}{p-1} \quad (3)$$

with  $p_c = 1/2$ . The pair density  $\rho_2$  ( $c$  in [6] notation) is just the square of  $\rho$  at this level. For  $p < \sim p_c$  the densities behave as

$$\rho(\infty) \propto (p_c - p)^\beta \quad (4)$$

$$\rho_2(\infty) \propto (p_c - p)^{\beta_2} \quad (5)$$

with  $\beta = 1$  and  $\beta_2 = 2$  leading order singularities. At the critical point

$$\frac{\partial \rho(p = 1/2)}{\partial t} = 2(\rho/2 - 1)\rho^3 \quad (6)$$

which implies the leading order scaling is

$$\rho(t) \propto t^{-\alpha}, \quad \rho_2(t) \propto t^{-\alpha_2}, \quad (7)$$

with  $\alpha = 1/2$  and  $\alpha_2 = 1$ , while in the absorbing phase

$$\rho(t) \propto t^{-1}, \quad \rho_2(t) \propto t^{-2}. \quad (8)$$

All these exponents coincide with those found for the PCPD model [6] at the same level of approximation.

In the pair ( $N = 2$ ) approximation, the density of ‘1’  $\rho$  and the ‘11’ pair density  $\rho_2$  are independent quantities. One can easily check that the evolution of particles can be expressed as

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = & -2p(1-D)\rho_2 + \\ & + 2(1-D)(1-p)\rho_2(\rho - \rho_2) \frac{1-2\rho+\rho_2}{\rho(1-\rho)} \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

while the evolution of pairs

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \rho_2}{\partial t} = & -p(1-D)\rho_2 \frac{2\rho_2+\rho}{\rho} - 2D(\rho - \rho_2) \frac{\rho_2 - \rho^2}{\rho(1-\rho)} + \\ & + (1-D)(1-p)\rho_2(\rho - \rho_2)(1-2\rho+\rho_2) \frac{2-\rho-\rho_2}{\rho(1-\rho)^2} \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

Owing to the nonlinearities, we could not solve these equations analytically and had to look for numerical solutions. The critical indices thus obtained at different diffusion rates  $D$  are shown in Table I. As we can see, there are two distinct regions. For  $D > \sim 0.2$   $p_c$  is constant and  $\beta_2 = 2$ , while for  $D < \sim 0.2$   $p_c$  varies with  $D$  and  $\beta_2 = 1$ . All these results are in complete agreement with those of the PCPD model in the pair approximation.

In the  $N = 3$  level approximation the situation changes, as we can see in Table I: the two distinct regions for  $D > 0$  disappear and  $\beta_2 = 2$  everywhere as found in the site approximation. At  $D = 0$ , however, the particle density does not vanish at the transition but goes to  $\rho(p_c) = 0.2931$ . This means that the  $N = 3$  level approximation is already capable to describe the absorbing state that contains frozen, isolated particles. For  $p < \sim p_c$ ,  $\rho(p_c) - \rho \propto (p_c - p)^\beta$  with  $\beta = 1$ , the same critical exponent as the order parameter (the pair density) therefore we redefine eq.(4) now. These results are also in agreement with those of the PCP model [24–26].

$D$	$N = 2$			$N = 3$			$N = 4$		
	$p_c$	$\beta$	$\beta_2$	$p_c$	$\beta$	$\beta_2$	$p_c$	$\beta$	$\beta_2$
0.75	0.5	1	2	0.4597	1	2	0.4146	1	2
0.5	0.5	1	2	0.4	1	2	0.3456	1	2
0.25	0.5	1	2	0.3333	1	2	0.2973	1	2
0.1	0.4074	1	1	0.2975	1	2	0.2771	1	2
0.01	0.3401	1	1	0.2782	1	2	0.2759	1	2
0.00	0.3333	1	1	0.1464	1	1	0.1711	1	1

TABLE I. Summary of  $N = 2, 3, 4$  approximation results

This kind of singular mean-field behavior persists for  $N = 4$  (Table I, Fig.1) and can be found in the  $N = 3, 4$  level approximations of the PCPD model as well [23]. These results suggest that the  $N = 2$  approximation is an odd one. Recent investigations in similar PCP-like models [24,25] have also shown discrepancies in the singular behavior of the low-level cluster mean-field approximations. One can conclude that in these models at least  $N > 2$  cluster approximations are necessary to find a correct mean-field behavior. It is probably just a coincidence that the  $N = 1$  calculation produced the same results. We shall thereafter ignore the  $N = 2$  results and refer to the  $N = 1, 3$  scenario as the mean field prediction.

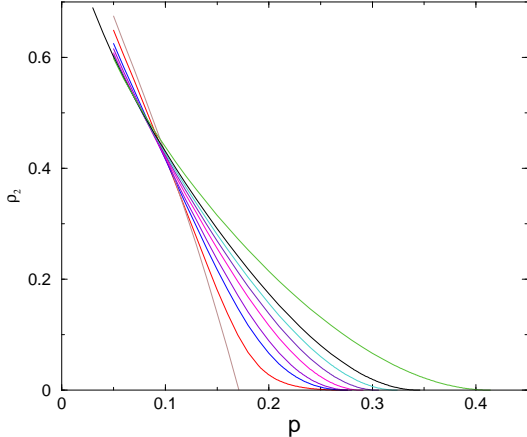


FIG. 1.  $N = 4$  cluster mean-field results for  $\rho_2$ . The curves correspond to  $D = 0, 0.01, 0.05, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5, 0.75$  (left to right). The same kind of convex curvature corresponding to  $\beta_2 = 2$  can be observed for  $D > 0$ , while it is different for  $D = 0$  (dashed line) corresponding to  $\beta = 1$ .

#### IV. SIMULATION RESULTS

The simulations were started on small lattice sizes ( $L = 100, 200$ ) to locate the phase transition point roughly at  $D = 0, 0.05, 0.2, 0.5, 0.8$ . The particle density decay  $\rho^L(t)$  was measured up to  $t_{max} = 60000$  MCS in systems started from fully occupied lattices and possessing periodic boundary conditions. Throughout the whole paper  $t$  is measured in units of Monte-Carlo sweeps (MCS). For  $D = 0.05$  we have not done so detailed analysis as for other diffusion rates but only checked that the results are in agreement with the conclusions derived from the  $D = 0.2, 0.5, 0.8$  data.

Then we continued our survey on larger lattices:  $L = 400, 500, 1000, 2000$  and determined  $p_c$  at each size by analyzing the local slopes of  $\rho(t)$

$$\alpha_{eff}(t) = \frac{-\ln[\rho(t)/\rho(t/m)]}{\ln(m)} \quad (11)$$

(we used  $m = 8$ ). In the  $t \rightarrow \infty$  limit the critical curve goes to exponent  $\alpha$  by a straight line, while sub(super)-critical curves veer down(up) respectively. The  $p_c(L)$

estimates exhibit an increase with  $L$  hence at the true critical point the critical like  $\alpha_{eff}$  curves of a given  $L$  are sub-critical. This excludes the possibility of finite size scaling study at  $p_c$ .

#### A. Dynamical scaling for $D > 0$

For the largest system size ( $L = 2000$ ) at  $D = 0.5$  diffusion rate the local slopes analysis results in a  $p_c = 0.43915(1)$  and the corresponding  $\alpha = 0.50(2)$  decay exponent agrees with the mean-field value (see Fig.2).

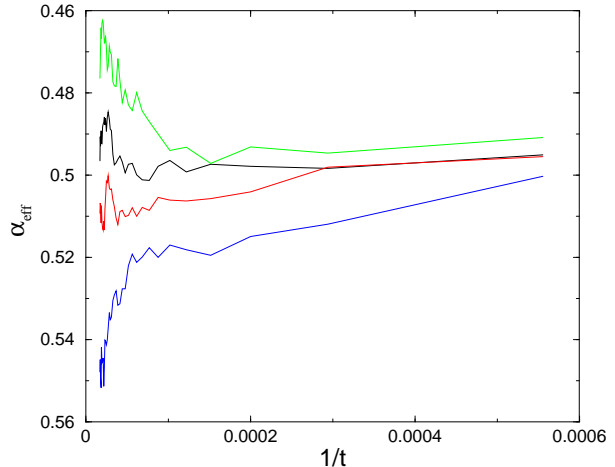


FIG. 2. Local slopes of the particle density decay at  $D = 0.5$  and  $L = 2000$ . Different curves correspond to  $p = 0.4392, 0.43916, 0.43913, 0.4391$  (from bottom to top).

We also measured the pair density  $\rho_2(t)$ ; applying a local slope analysis similar to eq.(11) suggests (Fig.3) the lack of phase transition of this quantity at  $p = 0.43915$ . Instead the curves veer up which may lead to different  $p_c$  and  $\alpha_2$  estimates. Such strange behavior has already been observed in PCPD model simulations [27,28].

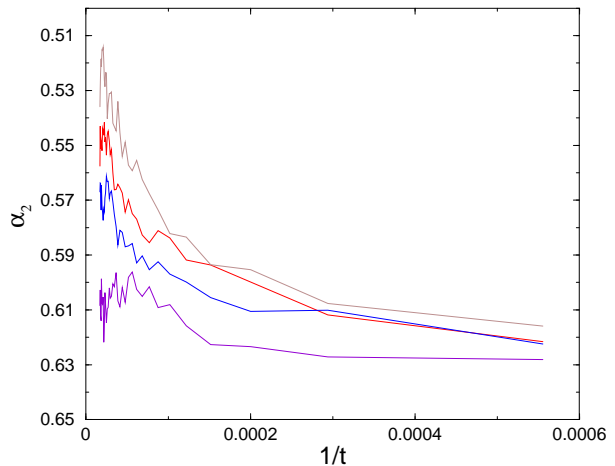


FIG. 3. The same as Fig.2. for  $\rho_2(t)$ .

An explanation for this discrepancy was pointed out by Grassberger in the case of the PCPD model [28]. Random walks in two dimensions are just barely recurrent and single particles can diffuse very long before they encounter other particles. Therefore it is natural to expect that  $\rho(t)/\rho_2(t) \sim \ln(t)$  and Fig.4 shows this really happens at  $p_c$ .

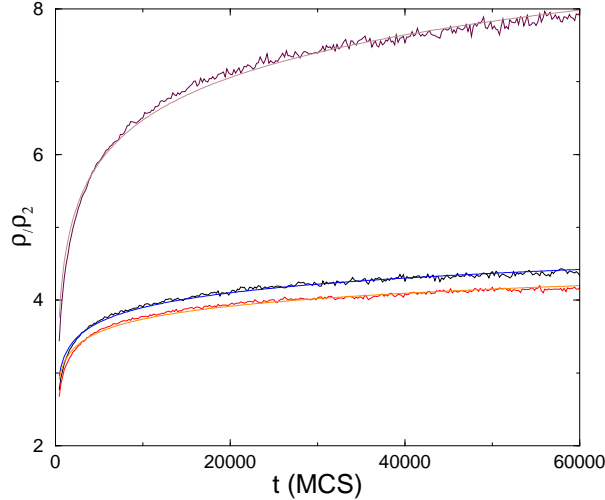


FIG. 4.  $\rho(t)/\rho_2(t)$  and logarithmic fit for critical curves determined by  $\rho(t)$  analysis. The top curves correspond to  $D = 0.8$ ,  $p = 0.475$ , the middle ones to  $D = 0.2$ ,  $p = 0.41235$ , while the bottom ones correspond to  $D = 0.5$ ,  $p = 0.43916$ . Note that the ratio is smallest at  $D = 0.5$ .

Therefore at  $D = 0.5$  we can conclude that  $\alpha_2 \simeq \alpha \simeq 0.5$  taking into account logarithmic corrections. This however contradicts the mean-field approximation value  $\alpha_2 = 1$ .

Similar local slopes analysis for  $D = 0.2$  and  $D = 0.8$  seem to imply  $\alpha = 0.46(2)$  and  $\alpha = 0.57(2)$  respectively. First this raises the idea that the exponents would change continuously with  $D$  as it was observed in some one dimensional PCPD simulations [9,18]. Nevertheless the deviations from 0.5 are small hence we tried to fit our data including logarithmic corrections. Logarithmic corrections may really arise if  $d_c = 2$  as predicted by bosonic field theory [7]. The precise form of these corrections is however not known for the present case so we have tried several functional dependences and found that

$$((a + b \ln(t))/t)^\alpha \quad (12)$$

is a good choice. As Fig.5 shows for  $D = 0.2$  this really works with  $\alpha = 0.507$  exponent.

Similarly for  $D = 0.8$  the same logarithmic formula fitting resulted in  $\alpha = 0.497$ . The coefficient of the logarithmic correction term is negative ( $b = -0.2776$ ), while it is positive for  $D = 0.2$  ( $b = 0.468$ ).

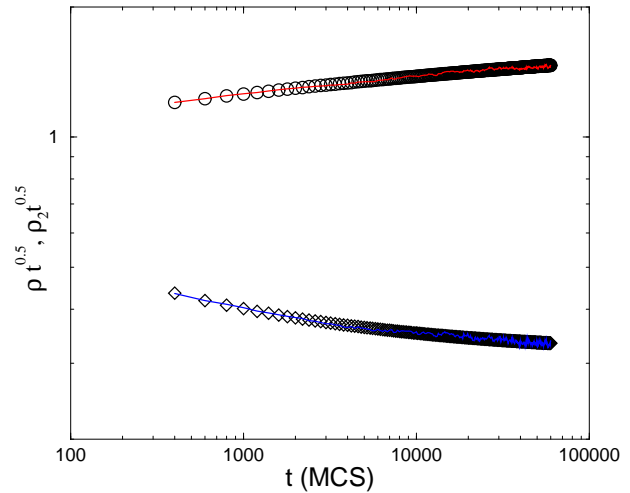


FIG. 5. Logarithmic fit (circles) for  $\rho(t)$  (upper curve) and with the form (13) (diamonds) for  $\rho_2(t)$  (lower curve) at  $D = 0.2$  and  $p = 0.41235$ .

These results suggest that logarithmic corrections to scaling should work for all cases we investigated but at  $D = 0.5$  they are very small and change sign. Indeed applying the same formula for the  $D = 0.5$ ,  $p = 0.43913$  data we obtained  $\alpha = 0.496$  with  $b = 0.00027$  and  $a = 1.552$ . As we found logarithmic corrections to the particle density decay and a logarithmic relation between  $\rho_2(t)$  and  $\rho(t)$  we may expect even stronger logarithmic corrections to the  $\rho_2(t)$  data. Trying different forms for  $D = 0.2, 0.5, 0.8$  we found that taking into account  $\ln^2(t)$  correction terms is really necessary and the best choice is

$$((a + b \ln(t) + c \ln^2(t))t)^{-\alpha} \quad (13)$$

This resulted in  $\alpha_2 = 0.5007$  for  $D = 0.2$  (see Fig.5);  $\alpha = 0.501$  for  $D = 0.5$  and  $\alpha = 0.484$  for  $D = 0.8$ . All these results imply that  $\alpha = \alpha_2 = 0.5$  independently from the diffusion rate  $D$ . For  $\rho(t)$  this agrees with the mean-field approximations and we don't see a change of universality by varying  $D$  inferred from the  $N = 2$  approximation. The critical behavior of  $\rho_2(t)$  however differs from the  $\alpha_2^{MF} = 1$  prediction.

## B. Static behavior for $D > 0$

The  $p_c$  estimates for different sizes were used to extrapolate to the true critical value. Simple linear fitting as a function of  $1/L$  resulted in the values given in Table II. For determining steady state exponents the densities  $\rho^L(t, p, D)$  and  $\rho_2^L(t, p, D)$  were followed in the active phase until level-off values were found to be stable. Averaging was done in the level-off region for 100 – 1000 surviving samples – those with more than one particle [12]. Again at each  $p$  and  $D$  we extrapolated as a function of  $1/L$  to the  $\lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \rho^L(\infty, p, D)$  values. The local slope analysis of exponent  $\beta$

$$\beta_{eff}(\epsilon_i, D) = \frac{\ln[\rho(\infty, \epsilon_i, D)] - \ln[\rho(\infty, \epsilon_{i-1}, D)]}{\ln(\epsilon_i) - \ln(\epsilon_{i-1})} \quad , \quad (14)$$

(where  $\epsilon = p_c - p$ ) shows that the order parameter  $\rho$  exhibits a  $\beta \simeq 1$  asymptotic scaling at  $D = 0.2, 0.5, 0.8$  (Fig.6) although a correction to scaling can be seen in all cases.

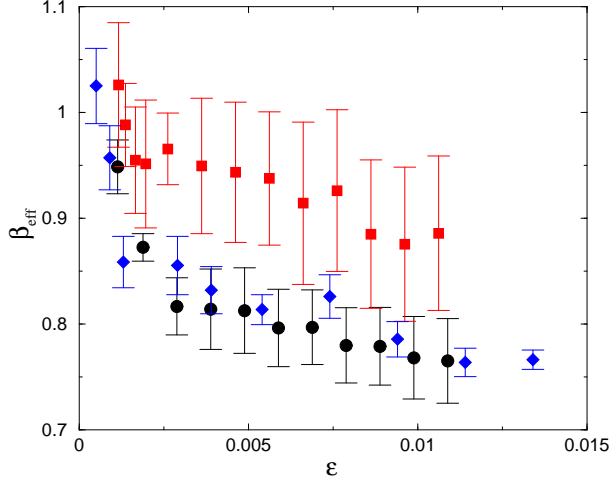


FIG. 6. Effective order parameter exponent results. Circles correspond to  $D = 0.2$ , diamonds to  $D = 0.5$ , squares to  $D = 0.8$  data.

The  $\beta \simeq 1$  agrees with the mean-field prediction. Doing the same analysis for  $\rho_2$  the local slopes seem to extrapolate to  $\beta \simeq 1.2$  for each  $D$ . This is very far from the mean-field value  $\beta_2^{MF} = 2$  and we don't see any change by varying the diffusion rate down to  $D = 0.05$ . We have investigated the possibility of different logarithmic corrections and found that the

$$\rho = (\epsilon / (a + b \ln(\epsilon)))^\beta \quad (15)$$

form gives very good fitting with  $\beta = 0.96(5)$  for  $D = 0.5$  while for  $D = 0.2$  and  $D = 0.8$  (similarly to the exponent  $\alpha_2$  case) we need to take into account  $\ln^2(\epsilon)$  correction terms to obtain similar good fitting (see Table II and Fig.7). Therefore we concluded that, as in  $\alpha$  case, the steady state exponents are equal:  $\beta = \beta_2$ . Note that we have checked that logarithmic corrections to scaling can also be detected in  $\rho$  data with  $\beta \simeq 1$  exponent.

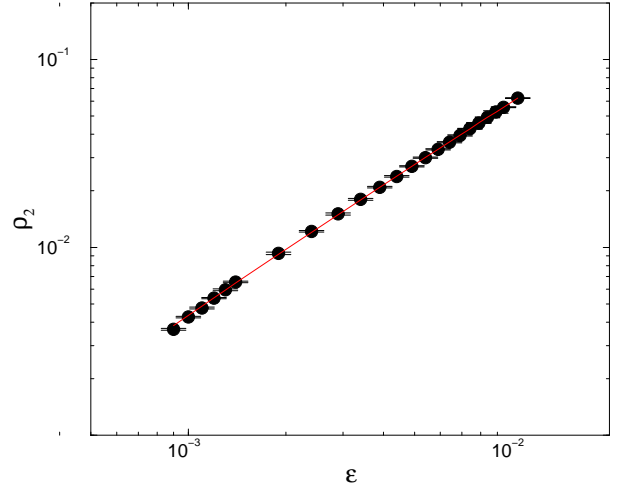


FIG. 7. Logarithmic fitting to  $\rho_2(\infty)$  at  $D = 0.5$  using the form eq.(15). The coefficients are  $a = 0.112$ ,  $b = 0.01$  and  $\beta = 0.96(5)$ .

### C. Data collapse for $D > 0$

To test further the possibility of mean-field critical behavior we performed finite size scaling on our  $\rho^L(t, p, D)$  data assuming the mean-field exponents [7]  $\beta = 1$ ,  $\nu_\perp = 1$  and the scaling form

$$\rho^L(\infty, \epsilon, D) \propto L^{-\beta/\nu_\perp} f(\epsilon L^{1/\nu_\perp}) \quad . \quad (16)$$

As Fig.8 shows, a good data collapse was obtained for  $p_c = 0.4395(1)$  at  $D = 0.5$ .

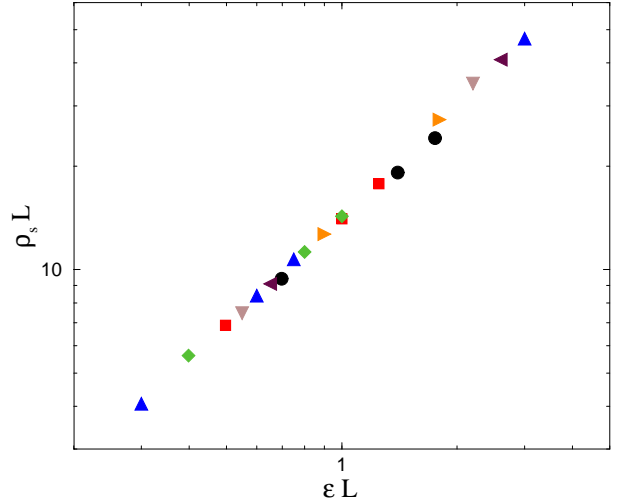


FIG. 8. Finite size data collapse according to scaling form (16) for  $L = 200, 400, 500, 1000, 2000$ . Different symbols denote data for  $p = 0.436, 0.437, 0.4375, 0.438, 0.4382, 0.4384, 0.4386$

Similarly the scaling form

$$\rho^L(t, \epsilon, D) \propto t^{-\beta/\nu_\parallel} g(t\epsilon^{\nu_\parallel}) \quad (17)$$

( $\alpha = \beta/\nu_{||}$ ) can be checked near  $p_c$ , assuming the mean-field values [7]  $\beta = 1$  and  $\nu_{||} = 2$ . For the largest size ( $L = 2000$ ) at  $D = 0.5$  the best collapse of curves corresponding to  $p = 0.438, 0.4382, 0.4384, 0.4386, 0.4388$  was obtained for  $p_c = 0.4394(1)$ . This agrees well with previous  $p_c$  estimates within margin of numerical accuracy.

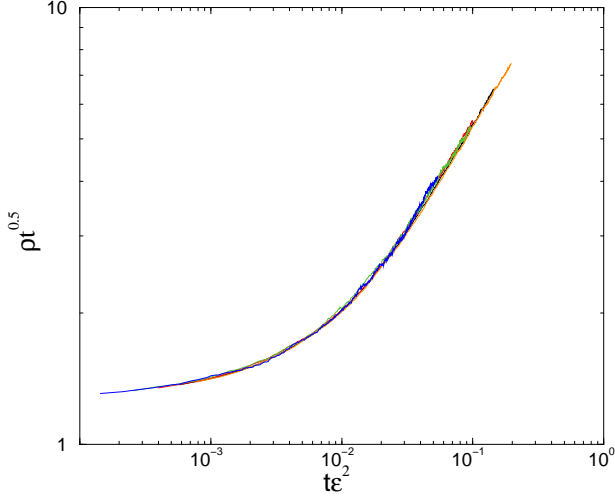


FIG. 9. Data collapse according to scaling form (17) at  $D = 0.5$ . Different curves correspond to data at  $p = 0.438, 0.4382, 0.4384, 0.4386, 0.4388$

#### D. The $D = 0$ case

As explained above, we expect that this model exhibits 2+1 dimensional DP universality because for the pair density the conditions of the DP hypothesis [2,3] are satisfied. Indeed at  $p_c = 0.3709(1)$  we found that the decay exponent of pairs is  $\alpha_2 = 0.45(1)$  and the steady state density approaches zero with the scaling exponent  $\beta_2 = 0.582(1)$  in agreement with the estimates for this class  $\alpha = 0.4505(10)$  and  $\beta = 0.583(14)$  [21]. At the critical point the density of isolated particles takes a nonzero value, usually called the *natural* density,  $\rho(p_c) \simeq 0.135$ . In [26] we showed that in case of the PCP and an other 1d model exhibiting infinitely many absorbing states the nonorder field follows the scaling of the order parameter field. Here we found that the total density shows a singular behavior

$$\rho(p) - \rho(p_c) \propto (p_c - p)^\beta \quad (18)$$

with the redefined exponent  $\beta = 0.60(2)$  agreeing with that of the DP class within margin of numerical accuracy.

#### E. Scaling in the inactive phase

According to the bosonic field theory [7] in the inactive phase the  $A + A \rightarrow \emptyset$  reaction governs the particle den-

sity decay. This process was solved exactly by Lee [29] who predicted the following late time scaling behavior in  $d = 2$

$$\rho(t) = \frac{1}{8\pi D} \ln t/t + O(1/t) \quad (19)$$

We measured  $\rho(t)$  at  $p = 0.45$  and  $D = 0.5$  in a  $L = 2000$  system up to  $t_{max} = 3 \times 10^5$  MCS. As Figure 10 shows, for intermediate times the density decays faster than this power-law in agreement with results for PCPD [28] but later crosses over to the expected eq.(19) behavior with amplitude 0.078(2) and with a 4.46/ $t$  correction to scaling term.

Unlike what we found at the critical point (see section B),  $\rho_2(t)$  decays faster than  $\rho(t)$  in the absorbing phase. The long-time behavior seems to be  $\rho_2 \propto t^{-2}$  which agrees with the mean-field prediction.

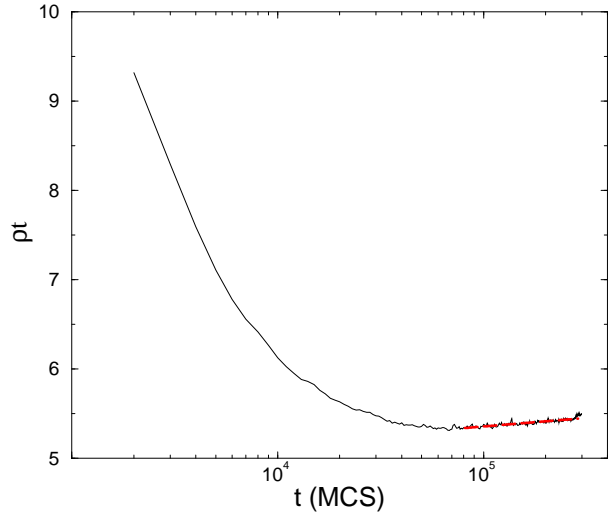


FIG. 10. Density decay in the inactive phase. For large times we found  $\rho(t) = (4.46 + 0.078(2) \ln t)/t$  behavior (dashed line) by fitting data.

	$D = 0.2$	$D = 0.5$	$D = 0.8$
$p_c$	0.4124(1)	0.4394(1)	0.4751(1)
$\alpha$	0.507(10)	0.496(6)	0.497(10)
$\alpha_2$	0.501(10)	0.501(5)	0.484(15)
$\beta$	1.07(10)	1.01(10)	1.07(10)
$\beta_2$	1.03(8)	0.96(5)	0.95(5)

TABLE II. Summary of simulation results at criticality

## V. CONCLUSIONS

We have investigated the phase transition of a two dimensional binary spreading model exhibiting parity conservation. In what concerns cluster mean-field approaches, the results are similar to those of the PCPD model at the corresponding level of approximation [6,23]. The  $N = 2$  results suggest two different universality classes depending on the diffusion strength. Higher ( $N = 3, 4$ ) order cluster mean-field show a single universality class characterized by  $\beta = 1$  and  $\alpha = 1/2$ . Comparing these with other recent results for PCP-like models and with the simulations, we believe that the  $N = 2$  case yields spurious results — although two universality classes were apparently observed in a study of the one dimensional PCPD [9] — and so  $N > 2$  cluster approximations are necessary to describe the mean-field singularity correctly. This is not surprising and was already found in similar models [24,25]. Note that in both the  $N = 3$  and  $N = 4$  approximations the  $p_c$  seems to have a discontinuity by approaching  $D = 0$ . Similar discontinuity in the phase space of the PCP model was recently reported as the result of an external particle source [25]. This behavior may be the subject of further studies.

We performed extensive and detailed simulations along the phase transition line and found a single universality class with the order parameter exponents  $\beta = 1$  and  $\alpha = 0.5$  for all  $D > 0$ . Logarithmic corrections to scaling were detected that are weakest at  $D = 0.5$ . In the lack of a theoretical prediction, we have selected the best logarithmic fitting forms taking into account up to  $O(\ln^2)$  terms, but we cannot rule out the possibility of other logarithmic correction forms. Scaling function analysis confirmed the  $\nu_{\perp} = 2$  and  $\nu_{\parallel} = 1$  mean-field values. This seems to indicate that the critical dimension is  $d_c = 2$  as predicted by the bosonic field theory. In the inactive region, the decay of particle density at large times was found to agree with an exact prediction [29].

The pair density  $\rho_2$  for  $p \leq p_c$  (where the bosonic field theory breaks down) was shown to exhibit the same singular behavior as the order parameter, apart from a logarithmic ratio. Simulation results of the PCPD model [28,10] found indications for similar behavior. The reason why the mean-field approximation fails to describe the singular behavior of  $\rho_2$  is yet not clear to us but in the two-component description of the model it indicates strong coupling between pairs and particles (similarly to other models [5,31]). In the inactive region, however,  $\rho_2$  and  $\rho$  scale differently. At the  $D = 0$  endpoint of the transition line we found 2+1 dimensional DP critical behavior of  $\rho_2$  with infinitely many frozen absorbing states similarly to the PCP model.

We have found identical predictions for the present and the PCPD model within mean-field, which seem to be confirmed by our simulations — and also by preliminary simulations for the  $2 - d$  PCPD [27,28]. One thus concludes that it is very likely that parity conservation is

irrelevant for this transition, as in the one-dimensional case [15] and in certain models with exclusion [32]. Further renormalization group studies of these systems are necessary for a proper justification of these results.

## Acknowledgements:

We thank P. Grassberger, H. Hinrichsen and U. C. Täuber for communicating their unpublished results and M. Henkel for his comments. Support from Hungarian research funds OTKA (Grant No. T-25286), Bolyai (Grant No. BO/00142/99) and IKTA (Project No. 00111/2000) and from project POCTI/1999/Fis/33141 (FCT - Portugal) is acknowledged. The simulations were performed on the parallel cluster of SZTAKI and on the supercomputer of NIIF Hungary.

- 
- [1] For references see : J. Marro and R. Dickman, *Nonequilibrium phase transitions in lattice models*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1999.
  - [2] H. K. Janssen, Z. Phys. B **42**, 151 (1981).
  - [3] P. Grassberger, Z. Phys. B **47**, 365 (1982).
  - [4] H. Hinrichsen, Adv. Phys. **49**, 815 (2000).
  - [5] I. Jensen and R. Dickman, Phys. Rev. E **48**, 1710 (1993); I. Jensen, Phys. Rev. Lett. **70**, 1465 (1993).
  - [6] E. Carlon, M. Henkel and U. Schollwöck, Phys. Rev. E **63**, 036101-1 (2001).
  - [7] M. J. Howard and U. C. Täuber, J. Phys. A **30**, 7721 (1997).
  - [8] U. C. Täuber, private communication.
  - [9] G. Ódor, Phys. Rev. E **62**, R3027 (2000).
  - [10] H. Hinrichsen, Phys. Rev. E **63**, 036102-1 (2001).
  - [11] M. Henkel and U. Schollwöck, J. Phys. A **34**, 3333 (2001).
  - [12] We found that considering samples with *surviving pairs* the results do not change but the logarithmic corrections become even more apparent.
  - [13] M. Henkel and H. Hinrichsen, J. Phys. A **34**, 1561 (2001).
  - [14] G. Ódor, Phys. Rev. E **63**, 067104 (2001).
  - [15] K. Park, H. Hinrichsen, and In-mook Kim, Phys. Rev. E **63**, 065103(R) (2001).
  - [16] G. Ódor, Phys. Rev. E **65**, 026121 (2002).
  - [17] H. Hinrichsen, Physica A **291**, 275-286 (2001).
  - [18] J. D. Noh and H. Park, cond-mat/0109516
  - [19] H. A. Gutowitz, J. D. Victor and B. W. Knight, Physica **28D**, 18, (1987).
  - [20] R. Dickman, Phys.Rev. **A38**, 2588, (1988).
  - [21] C. A. Voigt and R. M. Ziff, Phys. Rev. E **56**, R6241-R6244 (1997).
  - [22] R. Dickman, Phys. Rev. E **53**, 2223-2230 (1996).
  - [23] G. Ódor, in preparation.
  - [24] M. C. Marques, M. A. Santos and J. F. F. Mendes; Phys. Rev. E **65**, 016111 (2001).
  - [25] R. Dickman, W. R. M. Rabelo and G. Ódor, Phys. Rev. E **65**, 016118 (2001).
  - [26] G. Ódor, J. F. F. Mendes, M. A. Santos and M. C. Marques, Phys. Rev. E **58**, 7020 (1998).

- [27] H. Hinrichsen, private communication.
- [28] P. Grassberger, private communication.
- [29] B. P. Lee, J. Phys. A **27**, 2633 (1994).
- [30] I. Jensen, Phys. Rev. Lett. **70**, 1465 (1993).
- [31] M. C. Marques and J. F. F. Mendes, E. Phys. B **12**, 123 (1999).
- [32] G. Ódor, Phys. Rev. E **63**, 056108 (2001).